

April 12, 1993

Ms. Donna R. Searcy, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W. Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

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APR 15 1993

RE: PR Docket No. 92-235

FCC - MAIL ROOM

Dear Ms. Searcy:

As we have received information concerning the FCC's proposed rule change concerning the replacement of Part 90 with Part 88 we feel we need to express our concerns to the commission as a fire department.

The great cost to our volunteer department alone is justification for our concern, but we also have others. Just to replace the equipment in our small department alone could exceed \$10,000 dollars. That amount is over five years worth of our communications budget alone. Besides this extreme cost, there is the problem of interoperability between new and old systems, and between our new Part 88 equipment and the new standards for the federal government's equipment. We have to be able to communicate with various groups for a variety of situations, for example the ability to communicate with the BLM or Forest Service on range fires in our district.

Another great concern we have is the actual ability to even continue to be paged out in the event of an emergency. Our county sheriff's office does the dispatching for our department over 50 miles away across mountains and through a repeater. The power limits imposed by the new rulings could totally disrupt our communications link and the ability to be paged out could be taken away entirely. Being a volunteer department, as are MOST departments in this country, our very ability to serve the people depends on our ability to be paged out.

We hope that the commissioners will take the time to read this and other remarks and carefully weigh the facts before they make a broad rule change that could have a very dramatic affect on the type of service we are able to provide to the thousands of communities in this country. We realize the need for change in some areas where congestion is a problem, but we also hope that the commission will realize how burdensome these rules will be to those of us in sparsely populated areas that have a true need to communicate over vast areas. Indeed, our very ability to serve those we are entrusted to protect depends on our ability to continue use of our present systems.

Respectfully,



Cokeville Volunteer Fire Department
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